[Srimati Narayani Amma]

(*c*) whether any representation has been made, or scheme submitted to Government for extending these facilities; and

(*d*) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

MR. RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: (*a*) No measures have till now been taken to ascertain the total number of pilgrims who go every year to Sabarimala for worship in the local Sastha temple.

(*b*) The arrangements made by the Departments referred to in affording the Sabarimala pilgrims the necessary facilities are as follows :—

(1) *Medical.* Two Hindu Medical Officers with the necessary stock of medicines were deputed for duty at Pampa and Sabarimala, Temporary Ayurvedic dispensaries were also established at Erumeli, Pampa and Sabarimala.

(2) *Public Health.* The Department of Public Health attended to the Sanitary arrangements such as sprinkling of lotion, provision of trench latrines at the various thavalams and at Sabarimala and co-operated with the Devaswom Department for the work of preventing the fouling of the water sources.

(3) *P. W. Department.* The P. W. Department arranged for the clearance of the Vandiperiyar route and the Erumeli route from Peroothodu to Azhutha, besides attending to the supply of good drinking water and draining and cleaning the tanks, wells, Kokkurinis, tunnel repairs to the pipe line, the reservoir of Kumbalam thodu etc. The Rajampara Route was cleared by the Devaswom Department. The investigation of a scheme for the water supply at Sabarimala is now in progress. A rest house at Vandiperiyar has been constructed.

(4) *Forest Department* The route from Azhutha to Pamba is maintained by the Forest Department.

(*c*) Representations have been received during the past three years but none this year.

(*d*) Due action has been taken on the representations received by Government.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: May I know whether the Government have an idea of the approximate number of pilgrims who visited Sabarimala this year?

RAJASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: The point is this. People will be going to and returning from Sabarimala for about 15 or 20 days. Nobody can give any approximate idea about the number now. Last year the amount received as Nadavaravoo was Rs. 17,386 I take it that the number this year will be not less than 80,000.

Expenditure on the Public Service Commissioner's Department.

166. * **MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN:** Will the Government be pleased to state the total amount of expenses incurred till 30-12-1115 on account of the pay of the Public Service Commissioner and his staff as well as rent for his office building etc?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANAN PILLAI (*Ag. Public Service Commissioner*) Rs. 189,847.

Sylviculture in the State.

167. *SRY. T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the question of sylviculture has been taken up by the Forest Department in accordance with some definite plan ;

(*b*) if so, what that plan is ;

(*c*) whether that plan will include "Tree planting" on an organised basis, similar to the "Tree planting" operations carried on in some parts of the Madras Presidency ; and

(*d*) if the answer to (*c*) is in the negative, whether there is any agency to take up this work—with special reference to the propaganda side of it—in order that re-generation may keep pace with the large and indiscriminate felling down of Mango, Jack and other useful trees ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The plan is the conversion of comparatively valueless State forests into valuable teak plantations, where suitable ; and the exploitation of other areas in such a way as to improve natural regeneration of useful species.

(*c*) The plan includes "Tree planting" on an organised basis in "reserved forests." The "Tree planting" operations carried on in some parts of the Madras Presidency do not concern reserved forests but unreserved land and private property ; and the work done by the Forest Department in the State does not include such activities.

(*d*) No.

Staff of the office of the Public Service Commissioner.

168 *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the staff of the office of the Public Service Commissioner as it existed on 30-3-1116, showing the native place of each of its members ?

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANAN PILLAI : The statement is laid on the table.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : പബ്ലിക്കുസർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണരുടെ ആഫിസ്സ്സ്റ്റാഫിൽ ഒരു മുസ്ലിംപോലും ഇല്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനു വല്ല കാരണവുമുണ്ടോ?

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANAN PILLAI : ക്ലാർക്കായി ഒരു മുസ്ലിം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അയാളുടെ സ്വന്ത അപേക്ഷപ്രകാരം അയാളുടെ സ്ഥിരമായുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേക്ക് അയച്ചു.

*Vide Appendix VI. Page 232.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly